

The third trip to the same area on the night of 10th October may be of interest in view of what did not happen. About twenty moths came to light, consisting of seven species, none of a migratory nature, not even a single specimen of *Nomophila noctuella* D. & S., of which about 15 specimens were noted on the previous visit. However, on the same night, Bernard Skinner operating lights on similar terrain at Pagham Harbour, Sussex, logged 43 species of macrolepidoptera including single examples of *T. flammea* Esp., *Mythimna loreyi* Dup. (The cosmopolitan), *Trichoplusia ni* Hb. (The ni Moth), *H. peltigera* D. & S., and two examples of *S. exigua* Hb.

No doubt many uneventful collecting trips pass unrecorded, with no more than a silent curse, but when such contrasting results occur only 80 miles apart on the same night, they may indicate quite significant points of migratory progress, together with the need to refrain from a greater expletive. D. E. WILSON, Joyce House, Green Tye, Much Hadham, Herts. SG10 6JJ.

COMMA BUTTERFLY ATTEMPTING TO COPULATE WITH A SMALL TORTOISHELL — W. J. Tennent's note on unusual sexual behaviour in butterflies (*Ent. Rec.* 96 :131-132) prompts me to record the following: On 19th August 1983 at about 1700 hrs, at Ashburnham, East Sussex, I watched a male comma (*Polygonia c-album* L.) of the form *hutchinsoni* attempting to copulate with a presumed female small tortoisshell (*Aglais urticae* L.). The comma closely pursued the tortoisshell in flight and when the latter alighted on a Buddleia inflorescence the comma approached very close whilst curving his abdomen forward persistently for a few seconds. The tortoisshell then flew up, still closely followed by the comma and the same procedure was then repeated on another Buddleia inflorescence, before the comma finally peeled away during the next chase. No other comma butterflies were seen in the vicinity. R. HOBBS 15 Greenacres, Westfield, Hastings, Sussex.

TWO BEETLES APPARENTLY UNRECORDED FROM SURREY — The following two species of Coleoptera taken by me do not seem to have been recorded from the vice-county of Surrey, at least as far as the literature goes; though this does not preclude their being found here before. *Parabathyscia wollastoni* (Janson) (Leiodidae); in plenty under rotting grass cuttings on a vegetable plot 15.xi. to 3.xii.84, Kingston upon Thames (TQ1969) but not found since. *Enicmus brevicornis* (Man.) (Lathridiidae); several under bark of stacked beech logs 18/29.viii.83, Leith Hill (TQ1342). This species has been spreading lately (see Allen, A. A., 1981, *Entomologist's Rec. J. Var.*, 93: 178-179). — D. A. PRANCE, 23 Brunswick Road, Kingston Hill, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT2 6SB.